CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

1. A fusible electric slide switch, comprising:
   a) a base;
   b) a fuse carrier; and
   c) a cover;
   wherein said fuse carrier is slidably mounted to said base; and
   wherein said cover maintains said fuse carrier slidably mounted to said base.

2. The switch as defined in claim 1, wherein said base has a back portion; and
   wherein said base has a top portion.

3. The switch as defined in claim 2, wherein said back portion of said base has an uppermost edge;
   wherein said back portion of said base has a forwardmost surface; and
   wherein said back portion of said base has a lowermost edge.

4. The switch as defined in claim 3, wherein said top portion of said base has a lowermost surface; and
   wherein said top portion of said base extends forwardly from said uppermost edge of said back portion of said base so as to be generally inverted L-shaped in lateral cross section.

5. The switch as defined in claim 4, wherein said base has a plurality of electrical terminals;

wherein said plurality of electrical terminals of said base are disposed on said forwardmost surface of said back portion of said base; and

wherein said plurality of electrical terminals of said base are disposed adjacent said lowermost edge of said back portion of said base.

6. The switch as defined in claim 5, wherein said base has a plurality of electrical lands;

wherein said plurality of electrical lands of said base have a plurality of electrodes, respectively;

wherein said plurality of electrical lands of said base are disposed on said forwardmost surface of said back portion of said base; and

wherein said plurality of electrical lands of said base electrically communicate with said plurality of electrical terminals of said base, respectively.

7. The switch as defined in claim 6, wherein said base has a pair of plates;

wherein said pair of plates of said base are disposed on said forwardmost surface of said back portion of said base;

wherein said pair of plates of said base cover said plurality of electrical lands of said base, except for said plurality of electrodes of said plurality of electrical lands of said base; and

wherein one plate of said base has a blind bore.

8. The switch as defined in claim 7, wherein said base has a plunger assembly;

wherein said plunger assembly of said base comprises said lowermost surface of said top portion of said base having a blind bore;

wherein said plunger assembly of said base comprises a plunger;

wherein said plunger of said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier is disposed in said blind bore in said lowermost surface of said top portion of said base; and

wherein said plunger of said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier is biased outwardly from said blind bore in said lowermost surface of said top portion of said base by a spring.

9. The switch as defined in claim 8, wherein said fuse carrier has a forwardmost surface;

wherein said fuse carrier has a rearwardmost surface;

wherein said fuse carrier has a pair of sidewardmost surfaces; and

wherein said fuse carrier has an uppermost surface.

10. The switch as defined in claim 9, wherein said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier abuts against said pair of plates of said base and said uppermost surface of said fuse holder abuts against said lowermost surface of said top portion of said base as said fuse carrier selectively slides sidewardly relative to said base.

11. The switch as defined in claim 9, wherein said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier has a pair of recesses; and

wherein said pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier are for holding a pair of fuses, respectively.

12. The switch as defined in claim 11, wherein said pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier are disposed adjacent said pair of sidewardmost surfaces of said fuse carrier, respectively.

13. The switch as defined in claim 11, wherein said fuse carrier has two pair of electrodes; and

wherein said two pair of electrodes of said fuse carrier have tails.

14. The switch as defined in claim 13, wherein each pair of electrodes of said fuse carrier are disposed in an associated recess in said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier;
wherein each pair of electrodes of said fuse carrier are for electrically communicating with an associated fuse;
wherein said tails of said two pair of electrodes of said fuse carrier extend through said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier; and
wherein said tails of said two pair of electrodes of said fuse carrier selectively electrically communicate with said plurality of electrodes of said base as said fuse carrier slides sidewardly relative to said base.

15. The switch as defined in claim 11, wherein said fuse carrier has a handle;
wherein said handle extends generally centrally through said fuse carrier;
wherein said handle extends from said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier to said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier; and
wherein said handle of said fuse carrier moves with said fuse carrier.

16. The switch as defined in claim 13, wherein said fuse carrier has a pair of jumper electrodes; and
wherein said pair of jumper electrodes of said fuse carrier electrically connect associated ones of each pair of said two pair of electrodes of said fuse carrier with each other.

17. The switch as defined in claim 9, wherein said fuse carrier has a plunger assembly;
wherein said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier comprises said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier having a blind bore;

wherein said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier comprises a plunger;

wherein said plunger of said fuse carrier is disposed in said blind bore in said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier;

wherein said plunger of said fuse carrier is biased outwardly from said blind bore in said rearwardmost surface of said fuse carrier by a spring; and

wherein said plunger of said plunger assembly of said fuse carrier enters said blind bore in said one plate of said base when said fuse carrier is in an on position.

18. The switch as defined in claim 9, wherein said fuse carrier has a stop assembly;

wherein said stop assembly of said fuse carrier comprises said uppermost surface of said fuse carrier having a blind slot extending therealong;

wherein said stop assembly of said fuse carrier comprises a pawl;

wherein said pawl of said stop assembly of said fuse carrier is slidably mounted in said blind slot in said uppermost surface of said fuse carrier; and

wherein said pawl of said stop assembly of said fuse carrier selectively cooperates with said plunger assembly of said base.

19. The switch as defined in claim 11, wherein said cover has a rearwardmost surface;

wherein said cover captures said fuse carrier between itself and said base; and

wherein said rearwardmost surface of said cover abuts said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier as said fuse carrier selectively slides sidewardly relative to said base and said cover.

20. The switch as defined in claim 15, wherein said cover has a pair of through slots;
wherein said pair of through slots in said cover align with said pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier when said fuse carrier is in an off position for allowing access to the fuses; and
wherein said pair of through slots in said cover do not align with, so as to allow said cover to conceal, said pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier when said fuse carrier is in an on position for preventing contact with electrical components by a user.

21. The switch as defined in claim 20, wherein said cover has a secondary through slot;
wherein said secondary through slot in said cover extends sidewardly from one of said through slots in said cover;
wherein said handle of said fuse carrier extend through said secondary through slot in said cover; and
wherein said handle of said fuse carrier moves along said secondary through slot in said cover as said fuse carrier traverses on and off positions thereof.

22. The switch as defined in claim 19, wherein said cover has two pair of spring contacts; and
wherein said two pair of spring contacts of said cover are disposed on said rearwardmost surface of said cover.

23. The switch as defined in claim 22, wherein each pair of said two pair of spring contacts of said cover align with an associated one of said pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier when said fuse carrier is in on position for applying a force to and maintain fuses in said pair of recesses in said forwardmost surface of said fuse carrier.